

REMARKS

Claims 1-8 and 10 were pending in the present application. Claims 1-7 were rejected. Claim 1 is herein amended. Claim 10 is herein cancelled without prejudice.

Applicants' Response to Claim Objections

The Office Action indicates that claim 10 is objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all limitations of the base claim. Accordingly, Applicants herein amend claim 1 to incorporate the allowable subject matter of claim 10 into claim 1. Applicants respectfully submit that since claim 10 narrowed the "chemical bonding" of claim 1 to "covalent bonding," the amendment of claim 1 does not raise new issues requiring further search or consideration. Favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Rejoinder of the Withdrawn Claim (Claim 8)

The propriety of a restriction requirement should be reconsidered when all the claims directed to the elected invention are in condition for allowance, and the nonelected inventions should be considered for rejoinder. See MPEP 821.04. If applicant elects claims directed to a product which is subsequently found allowable, withdrawn process claims, including a process of making and/or using the product, which depend from or otherwise require all the recitations of an allowable product claim will be considered for rejoinder and the restriction requirement between the elected product and rejoined processes will be withdrawn.

Amendment
Serial No. 10/797,606
Attorney Docket No. 042190

Applicants respectfully submit that Applicants have presented allowable subject matter in the elected “wound dressing” claims. Withdrawn claim 8 is a “method for epidermal regeneration treatment” claim, which fully includes the subject matter of the independent “wound dressing” claim. In view of the above, Applicants respectfully request rejoinder of withdrawn claim 8.

Applicants’ Response to Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 1-7 and 9 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Ferrari et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,184,348) in view of Cook et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,916,585).

It is the position of the Office Action that Ferrari discloses the invention as claimed, with the exception of a polyalkylenepolyamine and a sheet selected from the group consisting of polyolefin, polyurethane, polyester, polyamide, polystyrene and silicone resin. The Office Action relies on Cook to provide these teachings. As discussed above, Applicants herein amend the allowable subject matter of claim 10 into claim 1. Therefore, this rejection is moot.

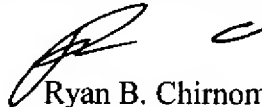
For at least the foregoing reasons, the claimed invention distinguishes over the cited art and defines patentable subject matter. Favorable reconsideration is earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner deem that any further action by applicants would be desirable to place the application in condition for allowance, the Examiner is encouraged to telephone applicants’ undersigned attorney.

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If this paper is not timely filed, Applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. The fees for such an extension or any other fees that may be due with respect to this paper may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-2866.

Respectfully submitted,
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